
MOHAWK VALLEY IRISH CULTURAL EVENTS NEWSLETTER

Volume 6, Issue 5

May 2009

Local Irish Community Loses a Friend

James L. Kellmurray was 2008 Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal

When Jim Kellmurray passed away on April 16th, 2009 at age 91, he left behind a passel of loving friends and family, and thousands of lasting stories (some a tad salty) and memories... but no regrets.

Jim was born in Utica on May 5, 1917, the grandson of immigrants from County Galway. He was raised by his parents, James M. Kellmurray and Gertrude Lynch Kellmurray in East Utica, the center of early Irish culture in this area, and attended St. Agnes Parish, St. Agnes Grade School and St. Francis DeSales High School, where he played basketball. Jim was in the first ROTC Class at Niagara University in Buffalo, earning his degree in Economics there. Commissioned in the U.S. Army at Fort Dix, N.J. with the 1st Infantry Division, known as the "The Big Red One," he was sent to Europe in 1940, where he fought in the invasion of Omaha Beach, Normandy. Jim was later injured in the protracted Battle of Hürtgen Forest near the Belgian-German border; earning the Purple Heart. Jim recuperated in hospitals in Paris, France and in England, and upon his release was assigned to active duty in England. Following his return to the states in 1946 and discharge from the Army, Jim joined the US Army Reserve and helped form the Military Police Unit in Utica, eventually retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel after 37 years of service to his country.



Jim was extremely proud of his Irish Heritage, and was involved in many Irish organizations. He held the longest membership in the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, served as an active member in the Emerald Society and John C. Devereux Division #1 of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, and most recently, was on the committee for the Great American Irish Festival. In 2008, Jim was extremely touched to be chosen Grand Marshal for the Utica St. Patrick's Day Parade, once again proudly representing his community.

Jim's obituary carried the words "Jim was blessed with many good friends..." But that's not entirely correct. With Jim, it was more a case of his many good friends being blessed with him. And even at the end, his famous Irish wit and wry humor never waned. On the night he was initially hospitalized, Jim was visited by his friends Matt Sullivan and Kevin Dowling from the Great American Irish Festival. Their visit left them cautiously optimistic, reporting that although he appeared tired, he still had his sense of humor and the familiar twinkle in his eye; summarizing with "He gave as good as he got." And on the night before he died, Jim was visited for what turned out to be the last time by another fellow Hibernian and friend, Charley Thomas. And in as good a summary as could have been written for Hollywood, Charley recalled later that night: "When I was leaving, he gave me a small wave and a thumbs up." *Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.*

32nd “East Durham Irish Festival” Kicks off the Season

On May 23 and 24 the 2009 Celtic festival season unofficially gets under way, as the quaint little town of East Durham hosts its 32nd annual “East Durham Irish Festival.” Billed as the “...longest running Irish festival in the U.S...,” the East Durham Irish Festival carries on its outstanding tradition of bringing in the finest music, food, children’s entertainment and family fun, at the Michael J. Quill Cultural and Sports Centre Headquarters, on 2119 Route 145 (off Thruway exit 21).



Each year, the festival strives to bring in bigger and better artists, and they invariably do. This year’s coup, however, may be tough for even them to top. Headlining this year’s festival will be Kansas City’s favorite sons -- openly adopted as their own by an ardent fan base in Central New York – **The Elders!** On both Saturday and Sunday, The Elders – considered by many to be the best contemporary Irish band in America -- will rock the festival grounds with their infectious tunes, high-energy stage performance and good old-fashioned fun. Also on the slate will be **Shilelagh Law, Black 47, Jameson’s Revenge, Searson, Barleyjuice, The Jimmy Sturr Band, Andy Cooney, Hair of the Dog, the Kitty Kelly Band, St. James Gate, the Moonshiners** and more. The Albany Police Pipe and Drum Band and the Michael Farrell School of Irish Step Dancing will also appear both on Saturday and Sunday. Children will have their own area, featuring their own music tent along with rides and games, and there will be an Irish mass on Sunday morning. Tickets for adults are \$13 until 2 PM, after which admission is \$16. Children under 12 are free, as is parking. For further information, call (518) 634-2286, or check out <http://www.irishvillageusa.com/memorialday.html>.

Liz Carroll and John Doyle to Perform at The Walton Theatre

On Saturday, May 2nd, the Walton Theatre in Walton NY plays host to Irish American fiddle master **Liz Carroll** and Irish guitar powerhouse **John Doyle**, in one of two area appearances by Ms Carroll. Liz and John are among the most respected traditional musicians in Irish music today and the fact that their first duo recording is nothing short of brilliant is no surprise. The two have honed their repertoire on the road. Doyle first rose to international prominence with Solas, the all-star Irish/American band whose emergence heralded the arrival of a new generation of bold, inventive traditional musicians. His skills as a guitarist, songwriter, vocalist and producer have played an essential role in the ongoing renaissance of Irish traditional music.



Since winning the All-Ireland Fiddle Championship in 1975 (more on this later), Liz Carroll has become one of Ireland's (and the world's) most beloved traditional fiddlers, having earned the reputation for invigorating traditional styles of Irish music and recording her own compositions that have become staples for other Irish musicians.

Tickets for the 7:30 PM show range from \$14 for Adults, \$12 for Seniors and \$30 for families, and can be reserved by calling (607) 865-6829. Opening the show will be Jay Ungar and Molly Mason. Make plans now to see this exciting and talented duo, described by the Irish Echo as “...synaptic in communication, instinctive in reaction, tight in execution, rich in ideas, and unabashedly having a ball.” The Walton Theater (<http://www.waltontheatre.org/wt/>) is just off Rte 206, about 20 miles south of Oneonta.

Natalie MacMaster, Steve Earle Descend on The Egg

On Saturday, May 16th, The Egg in Albany brings back folk and Celtic fiddling virtuoso, **Natalie MacMaster**, for a night of “fiery fiddle and flashy feet.” Natalie, a headliner at the 2006 Great American Irish Festival, has shared the stage with acts ranging from Carlos Santana to the Chieftains, Paul Simon to Luciano Pavarotti, Alison Krauss to Mark O’Connor and dozens of world-class symphony orchestras. The niece of famed Cape Breton fiddler Buddy MacMaster, Natalie first picked up a fiddle at the age of nine and has not looked back, and is now acknowledged as one of the finest fiddlers in the world, as well as being a world-class dancer. While the recipient of numerous awards for her recordings, Natalie’s live performances are a testament to her incandescent musicianship and boundless energy featuring foot-tapping rave-ups, heart rendering ballads and world-class step dancing. Tickets for the 7:30 PM show are \$28, and are available at <http://www.theegg.org/>.



And on May 30th, singer-songwriter **Steve Earle** pops in as part of the Egg’s “American Roots” series. You may not have heard of Steve Earle, or if you have, you may not know why his name bears mention in an Irish events newsletter. Steve, a prolific songwriter in a variety of genres, penned the song “Galway Girl,” which has been covered by many bands – included the Elders on their newest CD, “Gael Day” -- and which was also an integral song in the movie “PS I Love You.” (So I hear; I think I was watching the Ultimate NASCAR Uzi 3 Stooges Cops Swimsuit show or something else that night). Tickets for the 8 PM show are \$34.50, and are available at the Egg Box Office ((518) 473-1845) or via their web site (www.theegg.com).

Syracuse’s Westcott Theater Welcomes Back Enter the Haggis

On Saturday, May 16th, Toronto’s **Enter the Haggis** comes back to the area, visiting Syracuse’s newest performance venue: The Westcott Theater. A mainstay of the Great American Irish Festival, Enter the Haggis has built an international touring and recording career based on its unique approach to Celtic-based music and high-energy performances. The group’s constant touring schedule has made them one of the biggest draws at Celtic and folk festivals throughout the world. The Westcott Theater – its canopy calls it simply “A theater and Performing Arts Center” -- is a 700 capacity venue, located at 524 Westcott St., about two miles from Syracuse University. Debuting in September 2008, the Westcott Theater is breathing new life into what began as The Harvard Theater, one of Syracuse’s first cinemas, over 80 years ago. Doors open for the Enter the Haggis show at 8 PM, with the performance starting at 9 PM. Tickets, which are available on-line at <http://thewestcotttheater.frontgatetickets.com/>, range from \$10-14.

Liz Carroll, Daithi Sproule to Conduct Manlius Workshops, Concert

On May 3rd, the Syracuse Irish Sessions and Kellish Hill Farm present Liz Carroll (fiddle) and Daithi Sproule (guitar) at Kellish Farms, 3192 Pompey Center Road in Manlius. There will be musicians’ workshops from 2-4 PM, an open session from 4-6 PM, and a concert with Liz and Daithi at 6:30 pm. Liz, as we mentioned above, is one of the world's most beloved traditional fiddlers, and Daithi, who plays primarily with Altan, literally changed the face of Irish guitar accompaniment, having been credited with being one of the first guitarists to develop the DADGAD guitar tuning for Irish music. For more info, call (315) 256-1577. Admission for the workshops is \$20, the concert alone is \$15, and you can experience both for \$30.

Stanley Theater to host “Lord of the Dance”

“Lord of the Dance,” the world's highest-grossing dance performance, returns to the Stanley Theater on May 14, 2009 at 8 PM. “Lord of the Dance” is the theatrical extravaganza that has helped catapult Irish dancing into the global spotlight. The show features more than 40 dancers who deliver an eloquent and stunning interpretation of one of Ireland’s most famous legends. It has been the highest grossing dance show in the world since it began in 1996 (from www.lordofthedance.com). Tickets for the event, which range from \$25 to \$50, are available at the Stanley Box Office (724-4000) or at Ticketmaster outlets.

“Celtic Evening 3” at Rome's Capitol Theater

On Saturday, May 9th, the Capitol Theater will host Celtic Evening 3, an encore to the two Celtic Evenings presented in April 2005 and 2007. The show will feature some of central NY's finest musicians and dancers, including vocalists, Irish step dancers, Scottish highland dancers, Irish fiddlers, an uilleann piper, a Celtic mandolin player, an Irish folk group, a highland drum salute, the Comhaltas musicians, and the Mohawk Valley Frasers Pipes and Drums.

World-class piper Andrew Douglas will return and be doubly featured with performances in both acts of what is scheduled to be an hour and a half of top-flight entertainment. Douglas is a former member of the several-time world champion Simon Fraser University Pipe Band in Vancouver and currently Pipe Major of Oran Mor Pipe Band. He contributed a show-stopping performance in 2007 that received standing ovations, and he obliged the audience with an impromptu encore. Douglas grew up in Syracuse and, as a boy, piped with Mohawk Valley Frasers.

As in 2007, the Mohawk Valley Frasers are producing and directing the show. “The Celtic community abounds in talent,” said Jim Clough, Pipe Major of the Frasers. “There is a lot from which to choose. We have no problem creating a full evening of entertainment.”

Barbara Tewksbury, a geology professor at Hamilton College and a piper with the Frasers, will again direct the production and host the evening, and Ray Tucker of the Capitol will again coordinate the lighting, staging, and sound.

The first two Celtic Evenings played to full houses and brought rave reviews, which called the shows electrifying and nothing short of spectacular. The 2009 Celtic Evening will have the same fast-paced format. “It will be non-stop entertainment,” said Tewksbury. “The best from 2007 will return with fresh material, and the enormous success of our previous evenings has allowed us to recruit a few additional acts of the highest caliber. It helps that an appreciative audience makes the nights so special for the entertainers; the audience’s warmth is wonderfully energizing for the performers.” As with the first Celtic Evening, all proceeds will benefit the Capitol Theatre and the Mohawk Valley Frasers Celtic Arts scholarships.



Ticket prices for this 7 PM show vary as follows: Advance sale tickets: \$12 adults; \$10 Capitol members; \$8 Seniors & Students; \$4 Children. At the Door: \$15 Adults; \$12 Capitol Members; \$10 Seniors and Students; \$5 Children. Tickets may be purchased at a discount by calling the Capitol Theatre Box Office at 337-6453, or at full price at the door on the night of the performance.

Blessed Beltane to You and Yours – *liberally borrowed – stolen? Potato-potahto --from several web sites.*

Beltane (also known as Bealtaine or Bealltainn), is an ancient Gaelic holiday celebrated around May 1. The word Beltane means “Fire in the sky.” Beltane, and its counterpart Samhain (see MVICE, Oct 2005 for more on Samhain), divide the year into its two primary seasons: winter (Dark Part) and summer (Light Part). As Samhain is about honoring Death, Beltane, its counterpart, is about honoring Life. It is the time when the sun is fully released from his bondage of winter and able to rule over summer and life once again.

Beltane, like Samhain, is a time of “no time” when the veils between the two worlds are at their thinnest; when the two worlds intermingle and unite and the magic abounds! It is the time when the Faeries return from their winter respite, carefree and full of faery mischief and faery delight. On the night before Beltane, folks would place rowan branches at their windows and doors for protection; as many otherworldly occurrences could transpire during this time of “no time.” Traditionally, the youngest member of the family would be sent out to gather primroses on the eve before Beltane and throw the flowers at the door of the home for protection. Then his older brothers would lock him out of the house. Haha! Just kidding.

Somewhat less mythical, Beltane marks the midpoint in the Sun’s progress between the vernal equinox and summer solstice, which is traditionally considered to be May 1st. Traditionally, Beltane festivities marked the beginning of the pastoral summer season when the herds of livestock were driven out to summer pastures and mountain grazing lands. These festivities began days before May 1st, or “May Day,” when villagers traveled into the woods to gather the nine sacred woods needed to build the Beltane bonfires. The tradition of “May Boughing” or “May Birching” involved young men fastening garlands of greens and flowers on the windows and doors of their prospective ladyloves before the fires are lit Beltane night.

From the Irish Kitchen (*recipes suitable for clipping*)

This month’s recipe – “**Whiskey Baked Ham**” Courtesy of Board Bia

INGREDIENTS:

4lbs (2 kg) ham	1/2 wine glass cider vinegar
1 large onion, cut in half	cloves
2 carrots washed and scraped	
2 small bay leaves	Whiskey Glaze:
3-4 cloves	5 tablespoons Irish whiskey
4 peppercorns	6 level tablespoons brown sugar
1 tablespoon brown sugar	2 1/2 level tablespoons Colman’s mustard

METHOD

Place the ham, skin side down, in a large saucepan and cover completely with cold water. Bring very slowly to a boil, discard the water and cover once again with fresh water. Add the onion, carrots, bay leaves, cloves, peppercorns, sugar and vinegar. Bring back slowly to a boil and as soon as boiling point is reached, reduce to simmering. Cover and simmer until the ham is cooked. Remove the ham from the water and leave to cool a little. Strip the rind and score the fat in diamonds. Place a clove in each diamond and place the ham on a rack in a small roasting tin. Brush the ham all over with whiskey. Mix the sugar, mustard and remaining whiskey together and spread on scored fat. Bake in the pre-heated oven for 20-30 minutes, basting twice or three times during cooking, until the glaze is golden brown.

If you try this recipe, feel free to share your experience with all of us; and of course, if you have a recipe you’d like to share, please contact Beth Loftis at bloftis@verizon.net.

Book Review:
“By The Lake”
By Mark Sisti

If your favorite movie of the year so far was “Fast and Furious,” you may want to pass on John McGahern’s “By The Lake;” this is not a book for those addicted to non-stop action. For those who enjoy their pleasures a bit more subtle and restrained, however, I could not recommend this book highly enough.

“By the Lake” is a virtually plotless depiction of a year in the lives of a group of people who live around a lake in the rural West of Ireland. The central figures are Joe and Kate Rutledge, a couple who have left their busy lives in London for the more simple life in the Irish countryside, and it is mostly through their eyes that we meet the rest of the colorful cast of characters. There is Jamesie Murphy and his wife Mary, whose bantering barely conceals their affection; the immoral, but somehow charming John Quinn, whose first request upon meeting the Rutledges is for them to procure for him a wife from out of town, as his sordid reputation has ensured that no local woman would have him; Jimmy Joe McKiernan, the head of the local IRA branch; Bill Evans, who has never fully recovered from a brutal childhood as an orphan raised by nuns; Jamesie’s brother Johnny, who left the village for London years before to pursue the woman he loved and whose return each summer is eagerly anticipated; the Shah, the richest man in town; Patrick Ryan, the handyman who never seems to finish the projects he starts; and the others who share in the everyday events that make up small town life.

As mentioned, there is no plot to speak of. There is (and creative writing teachers will be aghast) no sense of conflict and resolution as we are used to seeing in a novel. One gets the impression while reading this book that nothing is happening, but by the halfway point or so, you realize that life is what is happening. We experience, as if we were part of the story, the commonplace occurrences that are the lives of these superbly drawn characters, set against the backdrop of the rhythm and flow of the natural world around them, as the passage of time is reflected in the changes in the plant and animal life around the lake with the turning of the seasons. The residents – it becomes increasingly difficult to think of them as “characters” – deal with their farms, with their jobs, with their personal relationships, with the changing times, and with life and death. They are held together by their connections to the lake and to the land, but more so, by their connections to each other, and, even though well aware of each other’s faults and foibles, they help each other without question or complaint.

But the world they know is changing. It is not coincidental that all the residents by the lake are middle-aged or older; the only young people are those who visit from out of the village, and few of them feel any connection to this way of life. McGahern’s magnificently understated prose reflects the sense that something significant is passing: “[The days] did not feel particularly quiet or happy, but through them ran the sense...that there would come a time when these days would be looked back on as happiness, all that life could give of contentment and peace.”

In lesser hands, this novel simply would not have worked. But McGahern’s writing is so imbued with nuance that it never seems boring or mundane. The book is meticulously paced, allowing the narrative to unfold in its own time and creating a story that must be savored, not gulped. In a deceptively simple style that disguises the pure beauty of the writing, the novel becomes a warm, loving and gentle tribute to a way of life that is passing, and to those who have chosen that way of life. The novel works chiefly because of the characters; McGahern’s uncanny attention to character development gives us fully developed personalities who never become caricatures or plot devices. The dialogue is quaint and unadorned but almost poetically evocative, replete with the rituals and shortcuts of speech developed by people who share a close connection.

The book carried the title “That They May Face The Rising Sun” when first published in Ireland, stemming from an Irish custom of burying the dead with their heads toward the west so that when they are eventually resurrected from the grave, they will rise facing the rising sun. It is a concept that is overwhelmingly Irish in its twin obsessions with matters both melancholic and uplifting, and it is an image that, like the people you have met along the journey, will stay with you long after the book is finished.

Fleadh Cheoil (Festival of Music) – *contributed by Tomás Maol Ó' Meallaigh (Tom Malley)*

You have heard it said many times in this newsletter that a particular Irish performer is or has been an “All Ireland Champion,” and have wondered how the person earned that title. Admit it, you have.

There is an event each year called **Fleadh Cheoil na h-Eireann**, (translated as “Music Festival of Ireland”) at which performers compete for the title in their particular specialty. The Fleadh (pronounced flah) draws 250,000 spectators and 11,000 competitors. This year the 57th annual Fleadh will be held in Tullamore, County Offaly, Ireland, from August 16-23. Tullamore has two other claims to fame: it is the home local folksinger Vince Colgan, and rumor has it that there is a somewhat popular beverage named after the place.

But people can't just walk in and compete. They must qualify by competing and finishing well in a local fleadh. Each of the 32 counties in Ireland has a fleadh and these are followed by fleadhanna for each of the four provinces. But the good news is that you don't have to go to Ireland to compete (wait... that's “good news”?). There are three held annually in England and one in Scotland, followed by the All-Britain Fleadh. There are also two Fleadhanna in the US, and one in Japan. There are no doubt others as well.

We are fortunate in this area because we are within driving distance of one of the two fleadhanna in the US: the Mid-Atlantic Fleadh (www.NYFleadh.com), which will be held in Pearl River NY (Rockland County) on May 30-31. The other one in the US is the Mid-West Fleadh to be held in Detroit on May 15-16 (www.midwestfleadh.com/2009/fleadh/). For information on the Fleadh Cheoil na h-Eireann, visit <http://comhaltas.ie/events/competitions/> or www.fleadh2009.com. Finally, if you happen to be in Ireland, a list of local fleadhanna can be found at http://comhaltas.ie/blog/post/2009_fleadh_schedule/.

The fleadhns were started by Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann, which is still operating them. Comhaltas has over 400 branches in 15 countries on 4 continents; including 40 in North America, and a local branch, Craobh Dugan, in Utica. Visit www.comhaltas.ie or www.CCENorthamerica.org for more information on Comhaltas.

RANDOM RAMBLINGS

✚ **Covered Dish/Céilí** Speaking of Craobh Dugan of Comhaltas (we were, go back and check if you don't believe me), they are hosting a Covered Dish/Céilí on starting at 6:30, on Friday May 8th, at Seton Center; located at the corner of Sunset and Barton Ave, behind Our lady of Lourdes Church, Utica. Tom Malley suggests that you bring your dancing shoes and a dish to pass, (dark chocolate M&M's will do nicely), and your own table service. Contact any Comhaltas member for more info, or if you've lost your Comhaltas rolodex, get back in touch with one of us at this newsletter.

✚ **Nail Creek Pub To Host Monthly Trad Sessions** Ed Campbell wrote last month to say the Café Domenica was ending the monthly Craobh Dugan Open Sessions, and lo and behold, it's the Nail Creek Pub to the rescue! Starting next Tuesday, you can catch the Craobh Dugan open sessions on the first Tuesday of every month, from 7:30 to 10 PM. Best of all, it's still free!

✚ **Great American Irish Festival Update** Great American Irish Festival Volunteer Chairperson Claudette Johnson wanted us to remind you that the festival still needs volunteers for the 2009 festival, and that the Volunteer portion of the web site (www.gaif.us) is now open for the new season. She also notes that you need to sign up via the web page even if you've volunteered with the festival in the past. Several venues could use your help, and of course, volunteering 8 hours of your time over the course of the weekend makes you eligible to get all the great perks that aren't available to the general public.

✚ **... and You Can Help Spread the Word** Kate Barefoot, Special Events Coordinator for the Great American Irish Festival, writes: “Folks... if you are planning on attending any of the events on the Calendar, especially events that are out of town, please be sure to either take handouts about the GAIF with you or at least talk up the Festival with others when you are there. We would love to use any Irish related event to promote the Great American Irish Festival. Our target audience is others like us who appreciate our Irish Heritage, but might not have heard about our FANTASTIC Festival!! Please contact me if you want something to bring along! THANKS!!” Kate’s email is kfbare@yahoo.com.

✚ **One Mystery Solved...** You may recall that last month we had a new subscriber pose a question to our readership: JoAnn (joanncw76ny@yahoo.com) had asked “Is there an Irish organization in the Mohawk Valley to meet those of Irish ancestry and join in a social setting to learn more about Ireland?” Mere days later, contributing reporter John “Foxy” Fox wrote to suggest that she check out the home page of the Rome Genealogy Society (<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyrgs2/>), and from there follow the any of the links from there; including to a presentation by John Cleary, and a link to a document called “Researching Your Irish Roots: The Irish Provinces and Counties.” The Rome Genealogy Society -- who manned a booth at the Great American Irish Festival a couple of years -- ago is certainly a good starting point, but JoAnn, you might also consider looking into the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. Their current president is Amollia Grossman, who can be reached at agrossma@twcny.rr.com. Finally, there’s <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~floreceny/news042907.htm>; a site dedicated to saving a very old Irish church in Florence, NY. Good luck

✚ **...Another Mystery Appears** As you know, we try to stay at the forefront of local Irish happenings, a goal which often leaves our crack research team searching for days to get to the bottom of hot lead, unless his son is hogging the computer. In this case, the “hot lead” was a reference, no, several references to a “Celtic Rock Festival” to be held on the weekend of August 22-23, at the Sterling Renaissance Festival Grounds in Sterling, NY. Pretty simple, right? And yet, what should have been a breeze for our crack research team had him baffled instead. But we’re not going to quit, and we’re not going to be scooped by the Observer-Dispatch. Honestly. Anyway, although we’ve found nothing close to the whole story from any one definitive source, we believe we’ve stitched together what should be enough to pique your interest, and make you want to mark your calendar.

The “**Celtic Rock Festival**,” the latest New York State attraction run by a company called Empire Attractions, LLC, is scheduled to run from 10 AM to 7 PM on Aug. 22 and 23, at the Sterling Renaissance Festival Grounds. Tickets are \$19.95 for adults and \$14.95 for children. From the snippets we got from various bands’ web pages, here are (some of) the entertainers, and days if they were listed: Barleyjuice (Saturday), Rathkeltair (Saturday), Enter the Haggis (Saturday & Sunday), the Glengarry Bhoys (Saturday & Sunday), Searson (Sunday), Cara (Saturday & Sunday) and Emish (Sunday). More details will follow in the next issue or so. Or you can check with the O-D.

Celtic Club Calendar Finally, here’s the Irish Musical and Cultural calendar for May.

May 2	Liz Carroll and John Doyle	Walton Theatre	Walton NY	7:30 PM	\$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, \$30 families.
May 2	Hair of the Dog	The Parting Glass	Saratoga Springs	8 PM	\$13; resv. req.
May 2	Pat Kane	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	8 PM	Free
May 3	Liz Carroll, Daithi Sproule workshops/concert	Kellish Farms	Manlius	Workshops, 2 PM; Session, 4 PM; Concert, 6:30	Workshops \$20; Concert, \$15; both for \$30
May 3	Freeborn Men	Coleman’s Irish Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free

May 5	Craobh Dugan Open Session	Nail Creek Pub	Utica	7:30-10 PM	Free
May 8	Blarney Rebel Band	Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
May 9	Celtic Evening 3	Capitol Theater	Rome	7 PM	Varies, see here
May 9	Trad Irish Music Session	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
May 9	Kevin McKrell	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
May 14	Lord of the Dance	Stanley Theater	Utica	8 PM	\$25-\$50
May 15	Donal O'Shaughnessy	Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
May 16	Enter the Haggis	Westcott Theater	Syracuse	9 PM	\$10-\$14
May 16	Natalie MacMaster	The Egg	Albany	7:30 PM	\$28
May 16	Donal O'Shaughnessy	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
May 17	Syracuse Irish Session	Johnston's Bally Bay Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
May 17	Donal O'Shaughnessy	Coleman's Irish Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
May 22	Blarney Rebel Band	Piggy Pat's Pickled Pig Pub	Washington Mills	6-9 PM	Free
May 23-24	East Durham Irish Festival	Michael J. Quill Cultural and Sports Centre	East Durham	11-11 Sat 10-11 Sun	\$13 (\$16 after 2 PM)
May 23	Hair of the Dog	The Parting Glass	Saratoga Springs	8 PM	\$13; resv. req.
May 23	Trad Irish Music Session	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	2-5 PM	Free
May 23	Gerry Dixon	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
May 24	Cliudan	Coleman's Irish Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free
May 29-30	Neil Emberg	Kitty Hoynes	Syracuse	9 PM	Free
May 30	Steve Earle	The Egg	Albany	8 PM	\$34.50
May 31	Flyin' Column	Coleman's Irish Pub	Syracuse	4-7 PM	Free

That wraps it up for this month. If you have a book you'd like Mark to review, or a recipe to share, or a festival, concert or CD review of your own you'd like to contribute, feel free to contact us at sistia@roadrunner.com, bloftis@verizon.net or marksisti@roadrunner.com. As always, while we try to get things – prices, places, times, etc., -- as accurate as we can, sometimes we make mistakes. It always makes sense to call ahead to confirm some of these further-out trips. Oh yeah, don't forget Mothers' Day (May 10) or Memorial Day (May 25)!